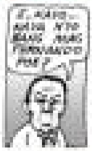


- World / A11 — Time running out on Bin Laden, says Washington
- Supplement — INQ7.net turns 3
- Docs board exams — Elmer R. Jacinto topnotcher; complete list on www.inq7.net
- Sports / A3 — Gloom as Miñoza fails to play





Can Poe's foes make a movie?

By Doris Franzbergen

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, February 27, 2004 · 36 pages · vol. 19 · no. 81

US to MILF: Carrot or stick

FPJ tops GMA in SWS poll

President demands one-on-one with Poe

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Marvin P. Marti



Palace race turning into battle of surveys

THE PRESIDENTIAL race is turning into a battle of surveys.

'Day of national remembering' honors 'Ka Pepe' Diokno today



DIOKNO

US to field 50 observers to monitor May elections



Gibson's 'Passion' sparks passionate emotions



THE DIRECTOR

Second FRONTPAGE

Bishop bucks legalizing 'jueteng'



INQUIRER ON AIR

Is Nazario in or out? Palace is clueless



Jenny 5 shots off pace

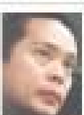
DHL 88TH RP OPEN

Aussie ahead; Frankie a no-show

SILANG, Cavite—With Frankie Miñoza a no-show as promised, Australian Adam Groom marched past the big guns with a six-under par 66 yesterday for a two-shot lead in the opening round of the $150,000 DHL-Philippine Open golf championship.



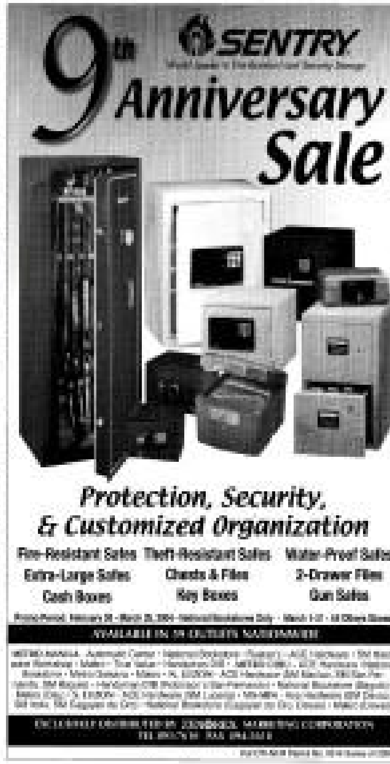
Seniors launch PAL golf today

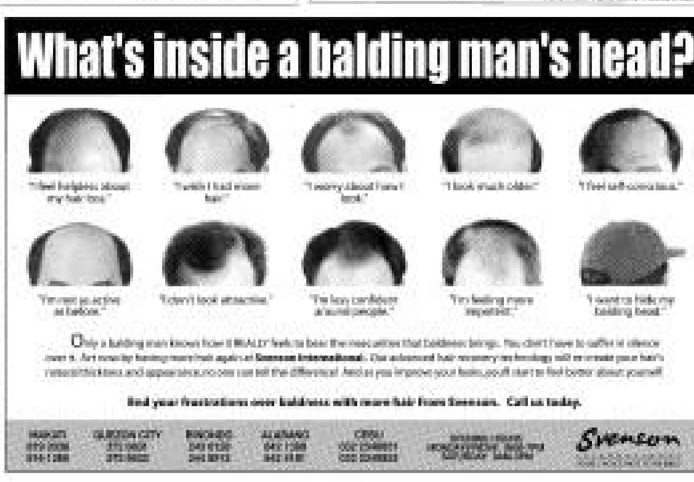


Trinidad is back at PBL

TRINIDAD

Arigo injured; P'foods import out for good





Top kidnap suspects give cops the slip

SC slams door on new Piatco appeal for lack of merit

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE SUPREME Court yesterday closed the door on any more pleadings from the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. to reconsider the high court's voiding of Piatco's contract to construct and operate the Ninoy Aquino International Airport's Terminal 3.

In a resolution, the high court denied a second motion for reconsideration which Piatco filed on Feb. 4 saying it was a prohibited pleading under the Rules of Civil Procedure.

It also junked for lack of merit a motion for reconsideration from respondent [illegible].

In its petition, Piatco argued that the high court could not "properly" acquire jurisdiction over the case because of alleged "substantial and procedural deficiencies."

The high court "denied with finality" Piatco's first motion for reconsideration on Jan. 21, paving the way for the government's takeover of the $450-million project.

"The plea is bereft of merit. The contracts at bar which made a mockery of the bidding process cannot be upheld and must be annulled in their entirety for violating law and public policy," the high court said.

In the January resolution penned by Associate Justice Reynato Puno, the court affirmed its May 2003 ruling revoking Piatco's franchise to operate the Naia Terminal 3, which has been delayed by more than a year.

The high court also upheld the government's position that onerous provisions in the contract with Piatco made it unacceptable.

"Substantial changes" were introduced to amend the original deal, making it disadvantageous to the government, the court said.

It also found that Piatco got preferential terms not offered to other bidders.

"If this flawed process would be allowed, public bidding will cease to be competitive and worse, government would not be favored with the best bid," it said.

Piatco is a consortium led by the Chinese-Filipino Cheng family and the German-based Fraport AG. Fraport has written off its investment of $312 million (about P17 billion) in the project.

In its May 2003 ruling, the high court said the Piatco contract was contrary to public policy and violated the build-operate-transfer (BOT) law.

The high court said the government had a right to take over the project because of the violations.

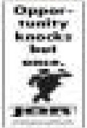
"Piatco cannot, by mere contractual stipulation, contravene the constitutional provision on temporary government takeover and obligate the government to pay 'reasonable cost for the use of the terminal and/or terminal complex,'" the high tribunal said.

No sabotage in armory fire–PNP

Mark Jimenez ouster upheld by high court

JI threat still serious, says US









ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Canon Marketing Philippines would like to acknowledge **CNET NETWORKS ASIA PACIFIC PTE LTD.** for the use of the articles in the Canon Photoworld supplement last Wednesday, February 25, 2004 in this publication.

RP freighter sails through unhampered

A PHILIPPINE-FLAGGED freighter accused of having sunk a French trawler has passed the port of Djibouti without incident and is heading for China, the owners said yesterday.

Vincent Miranda, company director of the Vicente Shipping and Management, also said there had been no attempts to detain the Seattle Trader in international waters despite accusations that it hit the trawler and killed five French fishermen.

"They have passed through Djibouti without incident," Miranda told AFP adding that there had been no further word from either the French or Philippine governments on the matter.

"We are confident that it is not the vessel (involved in the sinking) and if they want to inspect it in China, that is their choice," Miranda said.

The company has pledged to cooperate in finding those responsible for the Jan. 15 sinking in the English Channel of the Bugaled Breizh which left five French fishermen dead.

The 19,000-ton bulk carrier Seattle Trader is one of six ships being investigated for a possible role in the boat's sinking.

Miranda had earlier said they were willing to have the freighter inspected at a neutral venue but did not want it inspected in Djibouti.

AFP

Missing Miñoza

SPECTATOR



I'm still LDP–Lacson

By Norman Bordadora

TAAL, Batangas—"I'm still LDP."

Presidential candidate Sen. Panfilo Lacson yesterday said he was still the presidential candidate of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino despite the Supreme Court's recent ruling declaring actor Fernando Poe Jr. as the party's standard bearer.

Lacson made the announcement in the wake of the Commission on Elections' declaration that he was now deemed an independent candidate since he had been stripped of the LDP nomination.

"I'm a member of the LDP. The Comelec acted too soon," Lacson said.

"We will bring that to their attention," he added.

Lacson said his camp would file a motion for reconsideration with the Supreme Court. He also pointed out the SC had yet to rule with finality on LDP president Sen. Edgardo Angara's motion to nullify the Comelec ruling that would allow for two official LDP candidates.

Poe is the standard-bearer of the Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino, an alliance of opposition parties that includes Angara's faction of the LDP, the Partido ng Masang Pilipino and the Nationalist People's Coalition.



LACSON

Lacson, on the other hand, was nominated by LDP secretary general Rep. Agapito Aquino of Makati. It was this nomination that was nullified by the SC, which ruled that only Angara, as party president and under party rules, had the power to nominate the party's presidential candidate.

"It doesn't matter if the Supreme Court decides with finality that we are independent. If that's their decision, we will just campaign more vigorously," Lacson said.

As for the LDP logo on his posters and streamers, Lacson said the situation would be remedied by adding the word "independent" in the description of the party.

Lacson earlier said he would remain an LDP member despite the Supreme Court decision.

"The LDP will be the first and last party that I will recognize," he had said.

The WORLD

US: Time running out on Bin Laden



Morocco quake survivors angry at slow response

Barricades, looting at Haiti capital; Aristide told to quit



BIG ONE



ASAHARA

Accused brains of Tokyo nerve gas attack faces verdict

Heart-wrenching milestone



Israel troops raid 4 banks in Ramallah, confiscate $8M

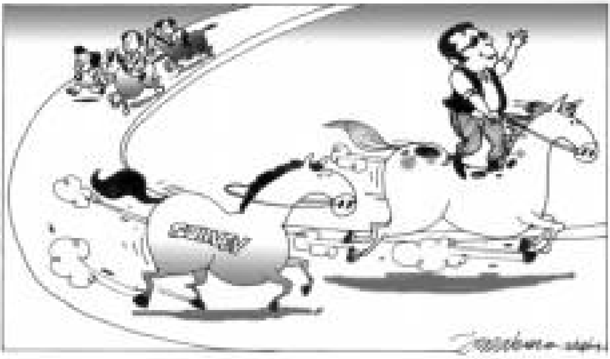


In Britain, lack of dentists an aching problem

Macedonian leader killed in plane crash

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Opinion



Tragic dream

EDITORIAL

LGUs should operate legalized 'jueteng'

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

Surveys, surveys everywhere

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

A two-horse race

Analysis



Amando Doronila

State and church: Uneasy ties

At Large



Rina Jimenez-David

Test questions for schools

Looking Back



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Radio

Pinoy Kasi



Michael L. Tan

They Said

Wake-up call

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

Better understanding of the party-list system

LETTERS

Victim of inefficient GSIS posting program

Meco's side on 'Rose' story

Playing partisan

Across the NATION

Isabela solon denies paying campaign fees to communist rebels

Toll at repaired North highway to rise 7 times

157 farmers end 13 years of waiting to own land

Group of real estate brokers blames laws for growing housing backlog

[illegible]



SPECTACLE
Baguio City residents peer out of a building on Session Road to watch the parade for the Panagbenga Festival.

Roundup

Trader injured

[illegible]

Power hike plan hit

[illegible]

Soldiers wounded in clash

[illegible]

Comelec exec robbed

[illegible]

Cops uproot marijuana

[illegible]

Gregorians homecoming

[illegible]

Boy killed in clash

[illegible]





US offers carrot, stick to MILF

Limited offer

MILF reaction

Not sacrifice cause

Exploratory talks

US to field 50 observers to monitor …

Not a 'US show'

'Messy' democracies

Gibson's 'Passion' sparks passionate emotions



Mixed reviews

Not since E.T.

Peaceful, stunning

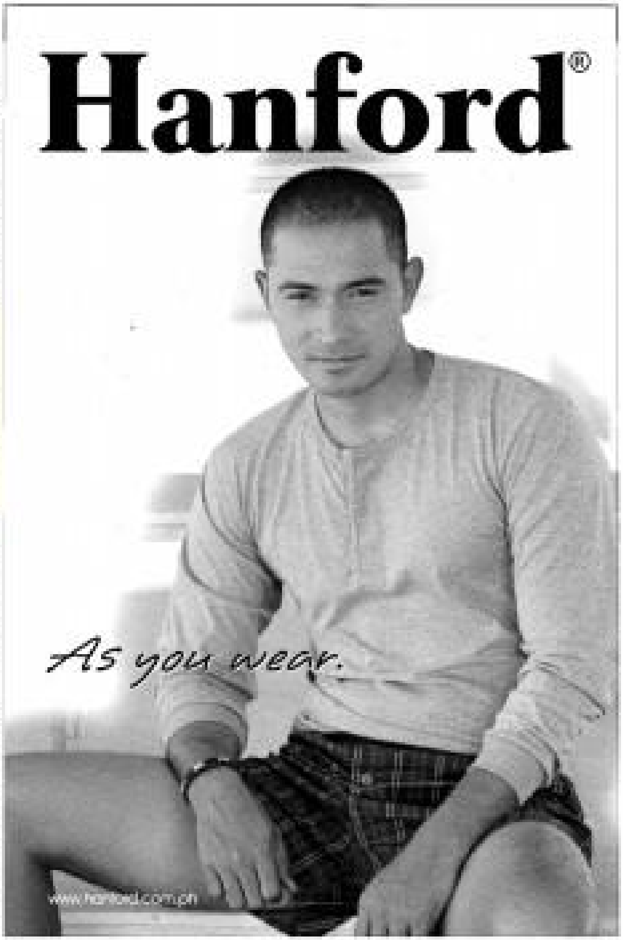
'Day of national remembering' honors 'Ka Pepe' today

Stonehill case

Brilliant record

Eloquent courage

Tiger survives longshot, 1-up



All Stars in benefit game for cancer-stricken cager

Missing Miñoza

Wolves end Nets streak

Pasay derby starts today

Life's greatest lessons by TOYM winners in "Sketches"



Butch Jimenez
President TOYM Foundation

Lim, Revilla, Lapid lead Senate race in Pulse Asia poll



ALFREDO LIM



BONG REVILLA



LITO LAPID



NENE PIMENTEL

FPJ tops GMA in latest SWS survey





President demands one-on-one with Poe

Can Poe's foes make a movie?

METRO

SUERTRES

SIX DIGIT

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

‘Bayanihan’ is alive and well in Baseco

61 stray dogs put to death in Makati



METROBRIEFS

Sweepstakes

Police sweep

Young and deadly

200 houses razed in Diliman fire

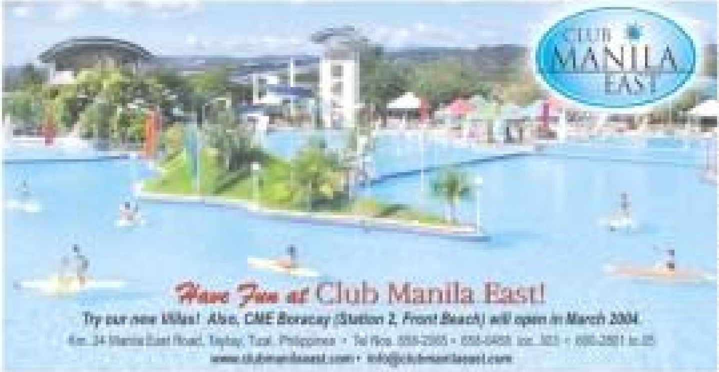
40 nabbed for posting campaign bills in QC



Girl, 16, needs bone marrow transplant



SARMIENTO



Strike

Palace not yielding to PUV threat

Unjustified

Appeals

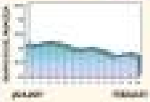
Key cities

Dealers threaten to cut pork supply to Metro

BUSINESS

Northrail gets $400-M China loan

CURRENCIES



Bargain-hunting lifts stocks



RP defers signing 'open skies' pact on cargo with 3 countries

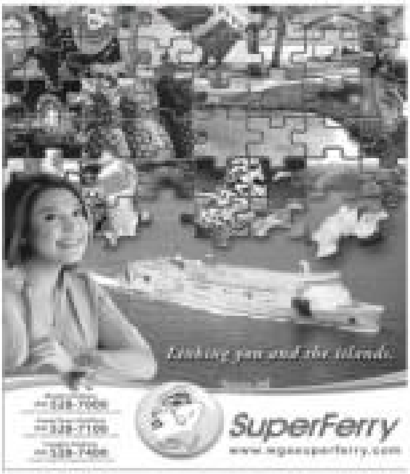


SMART WINS INT'L AWARD

Sy bank enters equities market

Print Town ...

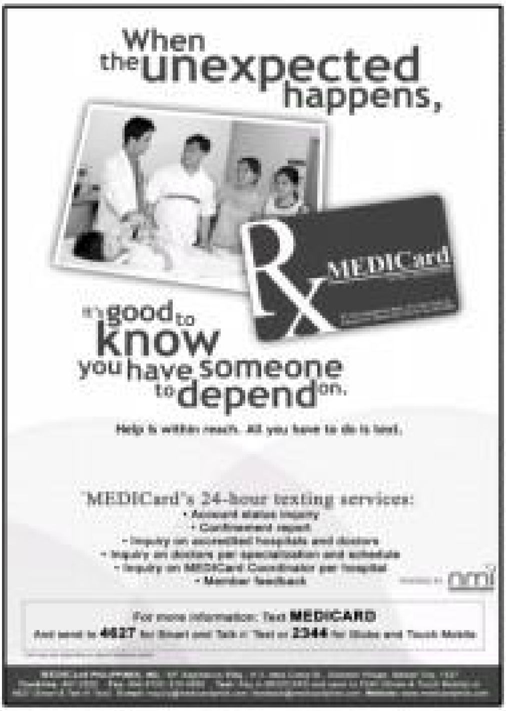
DISCLOSURES



SMC beer sales seen up by 17%

Print Town invests P500M in new facility





RESIDENTIAL PROJECT

MJCI, property firm form joint venture

Social entrepreneurs and our taxes

COMMENTARY

An example

From R-E to R-P-E

Crisis as catalyst

Conclusion



Nissan drops car prices

COCKTALES



Victor C. Agustin

Seattle cliffhanger

Heard through the grapevine

Northrail . . .

BUSINESS

February inflation seen rising to 3.4%, BSP says

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas expects prices of the country's basic commodities to rise likely between 3.4 percent and 3.8 percent in February from 3.4 percent in January.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said the rise in inflation was due to the residual pressures from rising oil prices, the depreciation of the peso against the US dollar and the avian bird flu scare.

These projections, however, compare February 2004 prices with those in the former base year of 1994.

The National Statistics Office recently shifted to a 2000 base year but comparative figures still refer to 1994 levels.

Based on the NSO's new base year, January inflation rate was much higher at 4.1 percent.

Inflation measures the rate of increase in the prices of basic commodities during a given period.

"It's still within the target," Buenaventura said.

"We're also looking at the impact of the avian bird flu scare," the BSP chief added.

Although the Philippines is still considered free from the bird flu sweeping other countries such as Thailand and Vietnam, jitters over the new virus caused hesitation among consumers to buy chicken.

This, in turn, has jacked up prices of alternative meat products such as pork and beef.

Based on a revised 2000 base, inflation hit 4.1 percent last month from 3.8 percent in December due to the 0.8-percentage point rise in the food, beverages and tobacco index.

Using the old base year of 1994, the January inflation rate jumped to 3.4 percent from 3.1 percent in December, exceeding the 3-percent forecast of the National Economic and Development Authority for the period.

The increase in January inflation was also blamed on the spiraling food prices fueled by the drop in the value of the peso.

BSP managing director for research Diwa Guinigundo said the BSP updated its inflation monitoring using the new 2000 base line as it would still have to run its forecasting models.

Bottled aphrodisiacs

Take your pick of fragrances that are passion magnets



ESTÉE Lauder Beyond Paradise



CALVIN Klein Eternity Love

MAKEOVER 911



Kimmy Salas

FLORAL scents are back with a vengeance. I've read that roses, jasmine, geranium and ylang ylang are considered the most potent aphrodisiacs for women. No wonder the rose is the flower of choice when wooing a lady.

However, it's a common mistake for women to woo men by drenching themselves in floral scents. It's a mistake because it doesn't work.

According to research, men are apparently enticed more by woody scents like sandalwood, patchouli, cinnamon and cedar wood. So take note of that when you go out on dates, ladies.

Scents ideal for hot lovers are clove, vanilla and basil. Other passion magnets include neroli and clary sage.

Below are fragrances for women containing aphrodisiac elements. Have fun!

Sexy scents

Eternity Love. Calvin Klein has come up with another blockbuster scent. Eternity Love's aphrodisiac ingredients include night-blooming jasmine and sandalwood, which are so appealing to both sexes. The concoction smells like a rose garden, and comes in a package that makes the most eye-catching limited-edition gift.

Escada Magnetic Beat. This smells like fruity candy but is loaded with jasmine, sandalwood and vanilla, with predominant notes of plumberry and black currant.

'Fantasy' fragrances

Incanto by Ferragamo. I predict this fruity floral scent will become a classic. Smelling it can be addicting.

The combination of peach, plum and Jamaican pepper mixed with jasmine, amber and musk produces a wonderful smell. Among my friends and relatives, this one was the most raved about.

Beyond Paradise by Estée Lauder. This fragrance is energizing, sexy, innocent and mysterious in one blow. Even the rainbow prism bottle looks like it belongs to a different realm. To come up with the scent, Estée Lauder tied up with the Eden Project, the largest nature conservatory in the world, to extract the essence of different environments—desert, rainforest and the tropics, hence the paradise theme.

Rose-tinged aromas

The fragrances I mention below are not your matronly rose scents. They've been mixed with other ingredients to come up with fresh, sexy-smelling scents. Definitely nothing old-fashioned here.

Origins Frolic. This is a nice light scent suitable for daytime. Teens would love it. The rose essence is mixed with linden blossom and honeysuckle to come up with a sweet and refreshing mix.

Stella by Stella McCartney. Stella's favorite flower is pink rose, which she mixed with amber in her first fragrance. The smell is very subtle and elegant, like a woman born to aristocracy and Old World style.

Burberry Tender Touch. I smelled this scent on a friend and I couldn't pry my nose away. It has rose oil, but the citrusy element from the tangerine has made it smell so fresh.

Neroli essences

Named after Ana, the princess of Nerola who used to slather her gloves with this orange blossom oil, this orange blossom fragrance has become one of the most expensive aphrodisiacs around.

Neroli is not for the faint-hearted or those who dislike heavy perfumes. It's an acquired taste, because it makes a bold statement!

Here are two Neroli variants.

L'Occitane Neroli perfume. Neroli in its purest form. This scent is a great aid to sleep and relaxation, as it gives a heady feeling not quite unlike sipping a glass of wine.

Dior Addict. I am not usually a fan of Dior scents, but one whiff of Addict and I had to have it. I love the smell of oranges, and the Neroli or orange blossom in this fragrance was unmistakable—and mixed with Bourbon vanilla, too. Other potent ingredients include rose and jasmine.

L'Occitane is available at Essences. Christian Dior and Origins are exclusively available at Rustan's.



LADIES' STREAKY JEANS
From left: Nomen, Freeway, Diesel, Human, A/X, DKNY, Lee and Diesel. Watch by Dior. Zebra-print and black-striped bags by T Studio.

Season of the blues

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Benny Johnson

HERE are your ultimate season chasers to the blues.

For this denim feast, we gathered together some of the top names in indigo fashion to give you a sampling of their latest offerings.

[illegible]

E-mail the author at [illegible]

[illegible]



LADIES' DENIM CAPRIS
From left: Liz Claiborne, Crissa, Executives, Liz Claiborne and Crissa. Thongs by T Studio.



LADIES' JEANS WITH PATCH- AND STITCHWORK
From left: Freeway, BM, Just G, SM, Crissa, SM and Just G. Red bag and high-heeled sandals by T Studio.



LADIES' CARGO/ CARPENTER JEANS
From left: Just G, Crissa and Lee. Zebra-print clutch, leopard-print bag and wedge-heeled sandals by T Studio.



MEN'S STREAKY JEANS
From left: Polo RL, Diesel, Lee, Ego and Human. Accessories: Eyewear by Police (left) and Mont Blanc (above). Watches by Louis Vuitton (top) and Montblanc (above).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2004
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

LIFESTYLE



You have to do what you have to do.
But while it may come naturally,
it may also compromise nature

Doing your thing correctly

SEEING GREEN



Doris [illegible] Nuyda

National Bonsai Open at the Shang



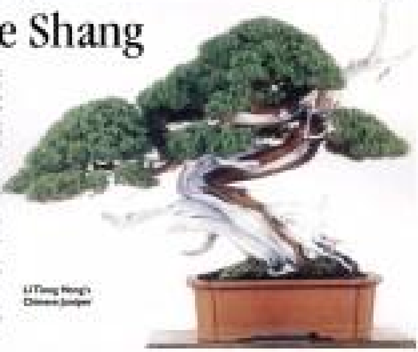
LOGWOOD, forest-style bonsai. From the collection of Vic Caballa

FELY S. Clapis, overall chair of the First PBSS National Bonsai Open 2004, invites all bonsai enthusiasts and the public to be a part of this year's bonsai exhibit and competition to be held on March 3-7 at the Grand Atrium, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong. The event is organized by the Philippine Bonsai Society Inc.

The National Bonsai Open will also feature commercial booths that will sell garden- and bonsai-related items like plants, bonsai materials, pots and tools.

Guests of honor will be led by Mandaluyong Mayor Benjamin Abalos Jr., former First Lady Amelita M. Ramos, Tomas C. Tin, president of Shangri-La Property, and professor Ang Liang, ambassador for international affairs, National Bonsai Association of Taiwan, ROC.

The competition proper will see 110 entries vying for the top selection and ultimately the Top 10 Bonsai level, from where the Best Bonsai in Show will be chosen.



Li Tiang Hong's Chinese Juniper

Doing your . . .

From page C1

the list is obvious: Don't leave your garbage, your clutter and your dirt, which includes all those substances mentioned earlier, wherever it is you've camped. A good environmentally minded nature tripper knows you just don't do your thing anywhere.

By now it must be apparent to the reader what "doing your thing" means. It's what you don't leave around anywhere because it's unsanitary and unsightly, but practiced only because there are no bathrooms in most places in the great outdoors.

It is easier on the ear, especially of finicky people, to "say doing your thing." To Kathleen Meyer, whose book I happened to find at a book sale store, the real term is "shitting" and she uses it unabashedly. As a matter of fact, she titled her book, "How to Shit in the Woods." If you're the squeamish type, her book is not for you, for she describes here some misadventures and [illegible], many of which are no-nos. But if her information is nevertheless important to you, you could have someone paraphrase it in less offensive language (if you get hold of the book, that is).

Still, shitting and its euphemisms are facts of life, and one must come across the need for it at one time or another while away from the indoor plumbing one is used to.

Cleaning up

What do you do then? Meyer suggests environment-friendly ways to do what comes naturally. The most basic entails digging holes. She enumerates several ways to do that, depending on the locale. In selecting appropriate spots, she warns against creeping life forms that may attack because they think they are being attacked, or against disturbing habitats, especially nests, because the occupants must never be disturbed.

What is more important to this convert, however, is how to clean up afterwards. She considers leaves, stones and tree barks as the most efficient materials to do that. They are all alternatives for toilet paper (or t.p. as Meyer calls it). They're your best bets when trekking and hiking, she says, because they're not bulky to carry around.

Just the same, she suggests that the wilderness tripper be aware of the leaves chosen as wipers. "Always select dead grasses and leaves over live ones. Don't pick wildflowers or rare species. Don't pick them in parks or restricted areas. Don't pull anything up by the roots. Don't rob huge clumps or strip an entire branch. Carefully pick a leaf here, a leaf there—so no one, not even the plant, will know you have been there."

It may be good to recognize the leaves you may have to use, like poison oak, poison ivy, sumac, stinging nettles or their local varieties, which should be avoided. Look instead for large and soft leaves and the like. Meyer mentions a few that don't seem to have local equivalents. But leaves with sap or sticky substances should be avoided as well.

Stay away from reeds, bamboo and some grasses, and leaves that can slice and cause agonizing pain. Pine cones are good tools but select the narrow, soft and older ones, not those that are spiny and round.

If you happen to be trekking in snow country, she recommends snowballs ("the freeze is a minor trauma compared to visiting one of those portable chemical toilets").

Other alternative t.p.s are smooth peeling bark, polished driftwood, seashells and large feathers. Don't use stones as they're too fragile.

Water seems like a natural alternative, but Meyer is not too enthusiastic about it because it requires deft handling and several water containers which add to a trekkers' load. In the end the water method is more complicated and, unless done efficiently, may result in polluted water flowing back to the river or stream nearby.

In arid, sandy terrain, t.p. substitutes may be harder to find. Your best pick, says Meyer, would be a smooth, sun-baked stone. "But take care," she warns, "under a blazing sun, stones can take on enough B.t.u.s (British Thermal Units) to brand souls." Thus, before using, test the stone in your hand for its temperature. Once used, however, don't return the stone to where it came from. Bury it instead.

Meyer writes on a tricky subject with a sense of humor. What she writes about, however, is quite serious. So, it's best to take heed, whether you climb mountains or take dips in the Pasig.

E-mail the author at [illegible]@yahoo.com

Hot off the press and worthy of a grand bash

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH



Maurice Arcache

Photos by
Alex Van Hagen
on Kodak Max

THE SUPER pages for Philippines Yearbook 2004 edition was recently launched with a sizzling room-only grand bash in swinging Dusit Hotel, palanggas.

The edition features works by the prestigious Camera Club of the Philippines (CCP), accompanied by literary essays on Philippine mythology. There aside from comprehensive information on everything you need to know about our country these days.

[illegible]







Hot off the press and worthy of a grand bash

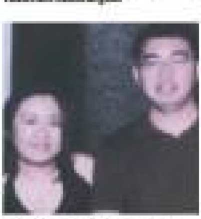












Tee-ing to success







Bank banquet





